

MORE SLOPER ENGRAVERS

John Mathews

In response to my article in Bulletin 333, December 2004, Roy Gault has kindly sent me a list of staff from the back of Sloper ledger 'A' (May 1862 – Oct 1874) as follows:

H Vaughan, 13 Princes Street, Barbican
Tom Crust, 3 Alpha Terrace, Notting Hill
Miss M A Blacklock, 10 Melton Place, Euston Road.
J Illidge, 20 New St, Covent Garden.
J Scott, 61 Exmouth Street, Clerkenwell
S Miller, 21 Staple Street, Long Lane, Bermondsey
Henry Harborow, 22 Park Villas, Frampton Park Rd, Hackney
George Culmer, 3 Tottenham Square, Tottenham Road, (King)sland
Miss R Tebbett, 9 Westbury Terrace, Westbourne Square
Miss Edlin...., 145 Grays Inn Road.

Some of these have been identified as entries on the Censuses of England for 1871, 1881, 1891 and 1901. The details are summarized in the following table. Some of the streets no longer exist.

Name in Ledger 'A'	Census entry/Possible Identity
H. Vaughan	1871 – Henry A. Vaughan, 13 Princes Street, St. Giles Cripplegate, 25y., civil engineer, b. Deptford, Kent. (Princes Street is opposite the north side of the Bank of England) 1891 – 78 Warwick Street, St Paul's Deptford, 45y., driller machine 1901 – 40 Childers Street, St Paul's Deptford, 55y., machine minder
Tom Crust	1871 – Thomas Crust (indexed as "Creest"), 6 Talbot Road, Kensington, 20y., apprentice, b. Brompton 1881 – 42 Talbot Grove, Kensington, 29y., telegraph instrument maker. 1891 – as 1881, except 39y. 1901 – 80 Clarendon Road, Kensington, 49y., telegraph instrument maker. (Talbot Grive and Clarendon Road are both very close to where Percy and Eustace Sloper lived during the same period).
Miss M.A. Blacklock	Unable to identify. Date of entry in ledger 'A' unknown. May have married before 1871.
J. Illidge	1871 – John Illidge, 10 New Street, St Martin-in-the-field, Westminster, 19y., engine fitter in factory, b. Southwark, Surrey. 1881 – 169 Elsley Road, Battersea, Surrey, 29y., engine fitter in works. 1891 – Tilbrook House, Park Dale Road, Plumstead SE, 39y., engine maker/fitter. 1901 – 143 Park Dale Road, Plumstead SE. 49y., steam engine minder

Name in Ledger 'A'	Census entry/Possible Identity
J. Scott	1871 - ? John W Scott, 6 Sekforde Street, Clerkenwell, 36y., bookbinder's tool cutter, b. Middlesex. (SekfordeStreet is very close to Exmouth Street)
S. Miller	Unable to identify. Not listed in Staple Street
H. Harborow	See previous article.
George Culmer	1881 – George Culmer, 4 Tottenham Square, Hackney, 34y., telegraph instrument maker, b. Southwark, Surrey. 1891 – Hackney Union Infirmary, 44y., tin case maker, b. Newington, Surrey. 1901 – not found. (In 1891 and 1901, George's family were still living at 4 Tottenham Square.)
Miss R. Tebbett	Unable to identify. Date of entry in ledger 'A' unknown. May have married before 1871.
Miss Edlin...	Unable to identify. Date of entry in ledger 'A' unknown. May have married before 1871. In 1871, residents at 145 Grays Inn Road were: Thomas Moger and his family (he died third quarter of 1876) Frederick Weaver and family (they lived at Camberwell, Surrey in 1881) Mary A Morton, widow (she died in the last quarter of 1874) In 1881, residents at 145 Grays Inn Road were: John W Aldridge and his family Joseph Barnes and his family Edward Upjohn and his family Harriet Holloway and her family No lodgers, visitors, etc with the name Edlin... at 1871 or 1881

Vaughan and Illidge may have changed their address in order to get new employment, consequent to Sloper moving the manufactory to West Hampstead. I also wonder if Tom Crust and George Culmer may have been employed by Henry Harborow after these three had left Sloper's employ, based on their occupations at 1881 and later.

Roy has also asked me why I referred to these employees as "engravers". It was a bit subjective. In my searching for companies which may have manufactured perforators, I found many likely candidates describing themselves as "engravers and die-sinkers". "Die sinkers" would probably be a better description than "engravers" for the employees in whom we are interested. Joseph, Percy and Eustace Sloper were all described as "engineers" in the various Censuses, but I thought their employees probably did not warrant this professional term.

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